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FBI Explosives Unit-Bomb Data Center General Information Bulletin 95-2

1994 Bombing Incidents

The Explosives Unit-Bomb Data Center (EU-BDC) collects, collates, and distributes statistical information. To this end, the unit has annually published the Bomb Summary which contains detailed information on explosive and incendiary bombings, recoveries of explosives, and recoveries of hoax bomb devices in the United States and its territories. Unfortunately because of this year's budgetary constraints, the EU-BDC may not be able to publish the 1994 edition in the standard format.

The unit understands the value of this information, however, especially for those who make a dedicated effort to report these incidents to our center. The bombing statistics are an important law enforcement management tool used to assess the impact of violent crime in the United States. Public safety agencies use the statistical base to measure the bombing activity in their region. Important decisions regarding bomb squad manpower allocation, safe response procedures, investigative procedures, and equipment options are initiated and supported by the bombing statistics.

This bulletin contains a synopsis of the bombing incidents for 1994. The statistical information is derived from incidents reported by public safety agencies, Military Explosive Ordnance Disposal units, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, and the Postal Inspection Service. Without their participation a complete understanding of the magnitude of this problem would not be possible.

COMPLETED

Actual and Attempted Bombings

Three thousand one hundred and sixty-three bombing incidents were reported to the EU-BDC in 1994. This is a 6% increase over 1993 bombings (2,980). The use of explosives in bombings accounted for 77% of the incidents. The remaining 23% were incendiary incidents.

In 78% of the bombing incidents the devices successfully detonated or ignited--22% were unsuccessful. Explosive devices detonated as planned 79% of the time and incendiary devices ignited 75% of the time.

Four percent of actual and attempted bombings were preceded by a warning or a threat. Eighty-six percent of the threats were verbal and 14% were written.

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Location

Of the 3,163 bombing incidents, 1,023 (32%) occurred in the Western states. Twenty-nine percent of the incidents occurred in the Southern states (904), which includes Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico, and 30% (944) in the North Central states. The Eastern states endured nine percent of the bombings--two hundred and ninety-two.

Targets

The top five bombing targets were residential properties at 52%, commercial operations and vehicles both at 11%, open areas at 7%, and academic facilities at 4%.

Injuries and Deaths

Bombings injured 308 and killed 31 individuals in 1994.

Property Damages

Damage to properties was estimated at 7.5 million dollars.

Recoveries of Devices

For the EU-BDC to tabulate an incident as a recovery the improvised explosive or incendiary device must have been without a target--for example, seized during a search or traffic stop. If the device was mailed, placed, thrown, or projected at a target the incident was counted as an attempted bombing.

There were 1,009 incidents involving the recovery of devices--an increase of 24 percent. Public safety agencies recovered explosives 93% of the time. Seven percent of the recoveries involved incendiary devices.

Hoaxes

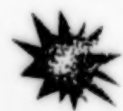
There were 474 incidents involving the placement of hoax devices. Thirty-seven percent were preceded by a threatening note, letter, or telephone call to the establishment or individual target. For our purposes, "suspicious packages" were not tabulated--for example, unclaimed luggage in an airport.

Financial Institutions received some type of threat before the incident 72% of the time and commercial/retail establishments 58% of the time. Offices were warned 29% of the time, academic facilities 30% and residential property owners were warned prior to a hoax 18% of the time.

Bombing Incidents

	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
total	803	847	858	848	977	1208	1582	2499	2989	2980	3163
EXPLOSIVE	518	575	580	600	593	641	931	1551	1911	1880	1916
INCENDIARY	127	102	129	104	156	203	267	423	582	538	545
EXPLOSIVE	118	113	101	102	161	243	254	395	384	375	522
INCENDIARY	40	57	48	42	40	91	130	130	112	187	180
PROPERTY DAMAGE	5.61	6.35	3.40	4.20	2.26	5.00	9.60	6.44	12.50	*518	7.5
PERSONS INJURED	112	144	185	107	145	202	222	230	349	*1323	308
DEATHS	6	28	14	21	20	11	27	29	26	49	31

* The 1993 damage figure includes \$510 million damage done to the World Trade Center building by a bomb on February 26, 1993. The persons injured figure for 1993 includes the 1,042 persons who were injured in the same bombing.



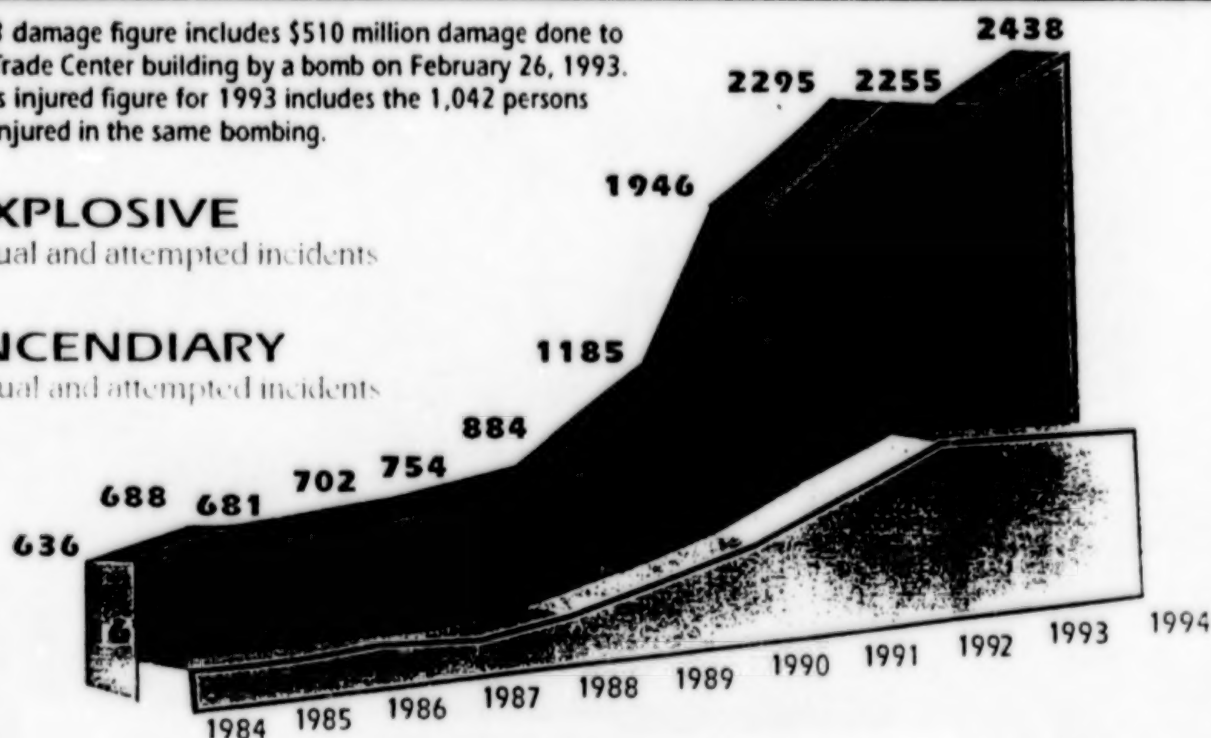
EXPLOSIVE

actual and attempted incidents



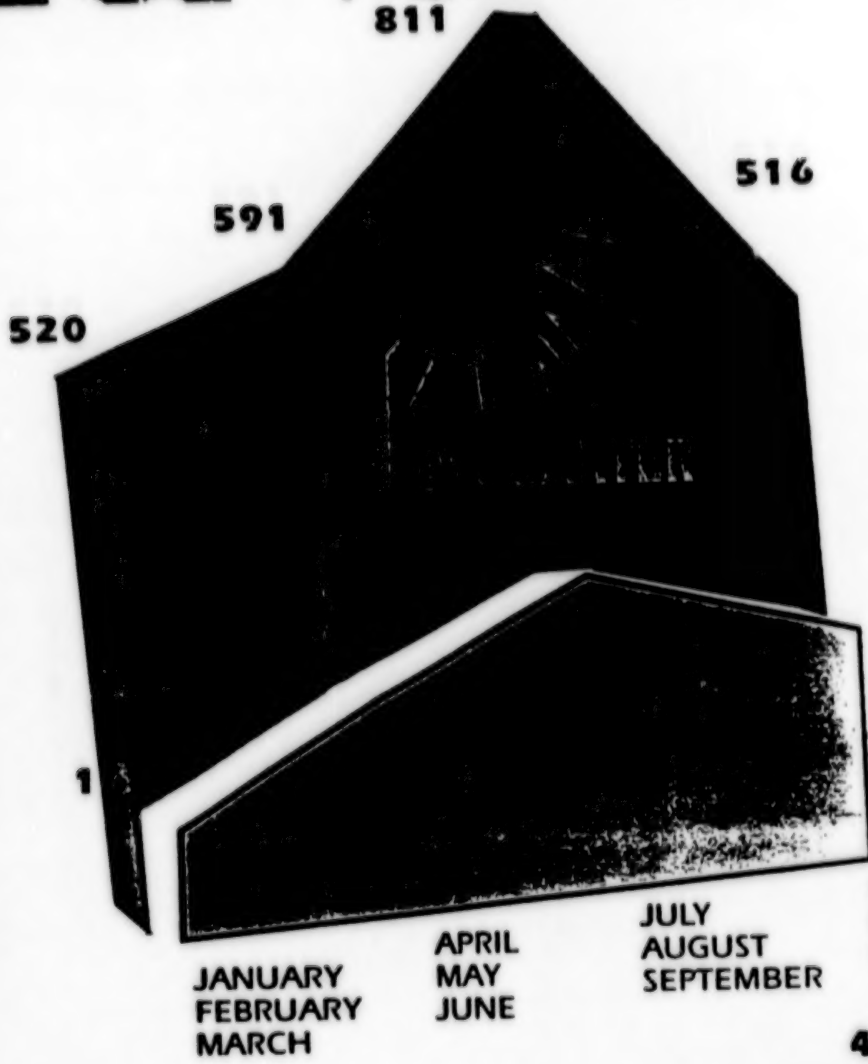
INCENDIARY

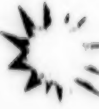
actual and attempted incidents

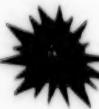


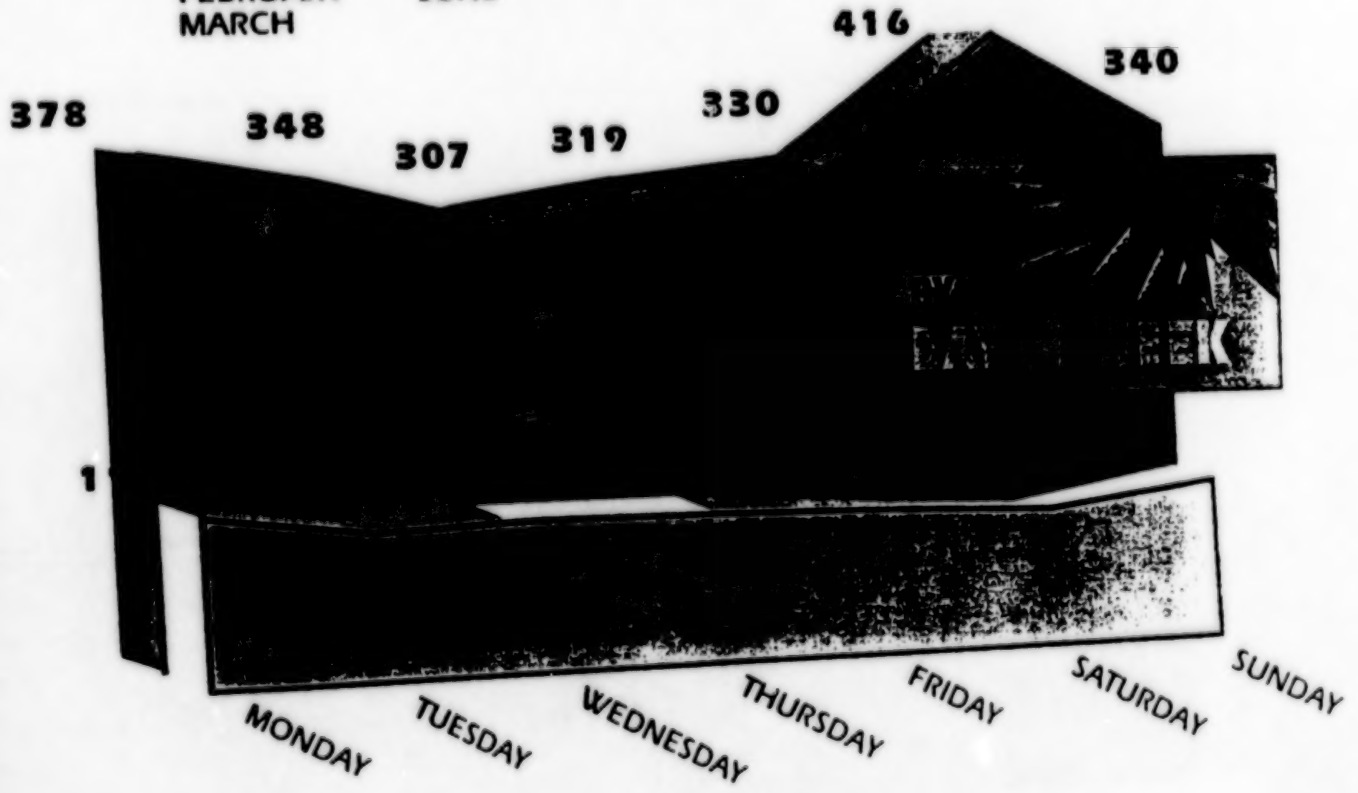
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Incidents by Quarter and Day



 **EXPLOSIVE**
actual and attempted incidents

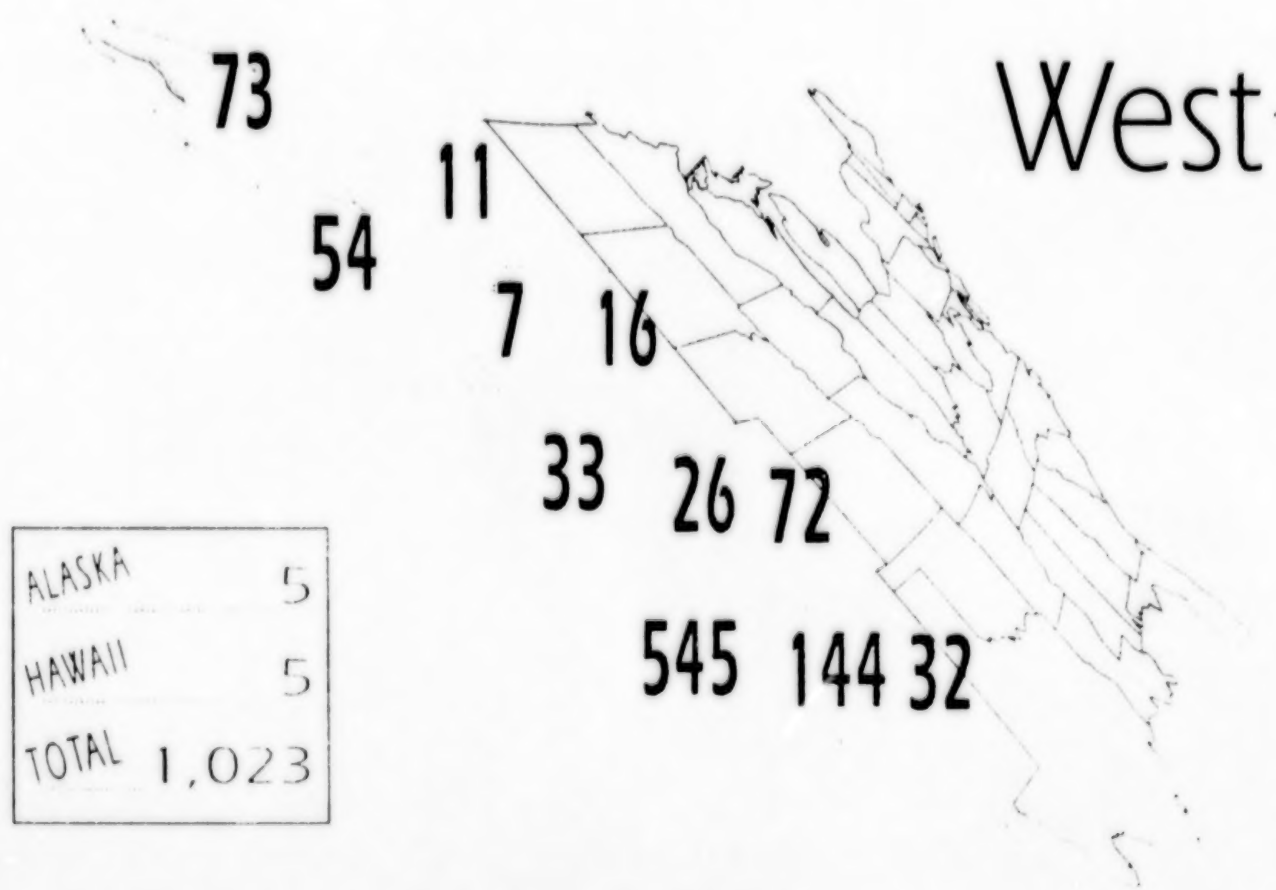
 **INCENDIARY**
actual and attempted incidents



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Incidents by State

STATE	EXPLOSIVES		INCENDIARIES		STATE	EXPLOSIVES		INCENDIARIES	
	actual	attempt	actual	attempt		actual	attempt	actual	attempt
ALASKA	4	0	1	0	NEVADA	21	8	2	2
ARIZONA	114	18	5	7	NEW MEXICO	25	4	2	1
CALIFORNIA	299	119	100	27	OREGON	29	21	3	1
COLORADO	35	8	23	6	UTAH	18	4	2	2
HAWAII	3	1	1	0	WASHINGTON	52	13	6	2
IDAHO	6	1	0	0	WYOMING	10	1	3	2
MONTANA	9	1	1	0	TOTALS	625	199	149	50



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Incidents by State

South



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	3
PUERTO RICO	7
TOTAL	904

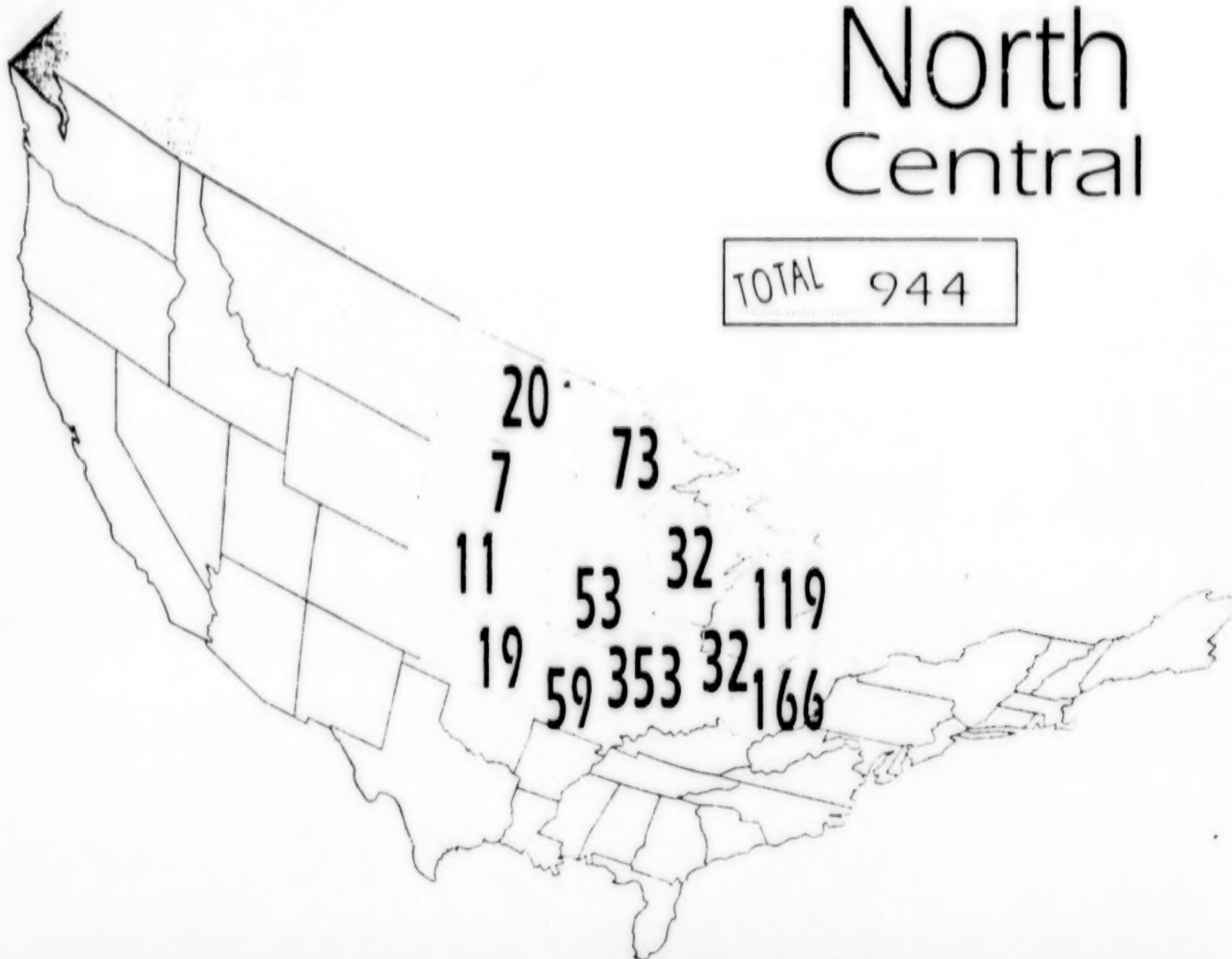
STATE	EXPLOSIVES		INCENDIARIES		STATE	EXPLOSIVES		INCENDIARIES	
	actual	attempt	actual	attempt		actual	attempt	actual	attempt
ALABAMA	11	5	1	1	MISSISSIPPI	7	2	2	0
ARKANSAS	2	2	2	0	NORTH CAROLINA	8	5	2	1
DELAWARE	2	0	3	0	OKLAHOMA	27	4	1	0
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	2	0	1	0	SOUTH CAROLINA	9	1	0	0
FLORIDA	233	44	25	10	TENNESSEE	26	8	5	9
GEORGIA	16	5	9	0	TEXAS	93	15	67	18
KENTUCKY	30	13	3	0	VIRGINIA	31	15	2	2
LOUISIANA	21	4	4	2	WEST VIRGINIA	7	0	1	0
MARYLAND	47	8	14	9	PUERTO RICO	2	0	2	3
					TOTAL	577	111	141	141

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Incidents by State

North Central

TOTAL 944



STATE	EXPLOSIVES		INCENDIARIES		STATE	EXPLOSIVES		INCENDIARIES	
	actual	attempt	actual	attempt		actual	attempt	actual	attempt
ILLINOIS	171	17	124	41	NEBRASKA	5	4	1	1
INDIANA	20	6	6	0	NORTH DAKOTA	18	0	2	0
IOWA	36	11	3	3	OHIO	87	38	35	6
KANSAS	12	3	2	2	SOUTH DAKOTA	6	0	1	0
MICHIGAN	84	21	9	5	WISCONSIN	20	10	2	0
MINNESOTA	54	6	12	1	TOTALS	543	125	213	63
MISSOURI	30	9	16	4					

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Incidents by State

STATE	EXPLOSIVES		INCENDIARIES		STATE	EXPLOSIVES		INCENDIARIES	
	actual	attempt	actual	attempt		actual	attempt	actual	attempt
CONNECTICUT	9	6	2	0	NEW YORK	64	24	15	6
MAINE	9	2	0	0	PENNSYLVANIA	39	20	13	2
MASSACHUSETTS	13	2	5	1	RHODE ISLAND	2	0	1	0
NEW HAMPSHIRE	7	0	0	0	VERMONT	3	2	2	1
NEW JERSEY	28	11	1	2	TOTALS	174	67	39	12

East



CONNECTICUT	17
RHODE ISLAND	3
TOTAL	292

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Injuries and Deaths



STATE	INJURIES	DEATHS	STATE	INJURIES	DEATHS	STATE	INJURIES	DEATHS
AL	6	-	KY	-	3	OH	5	-
AK	-	-	LA	6	-	OK	3	-
AZ	3	1	ME	2	-	OR	5	-
AR	1	-	MD	14	-	PA	5	3
CA	58	2	MA	2	-	PR	2	-
CO	7	2	MI	11	2	RI	-	-
CT	1	-	MN	3	1	SC	1	-
DE	-	-	MS	-	-	SD	-	1
DC	2	-	MO	5	2	TN	2	-
FL	10	-	MT	-	-	TX	12	-
GA	2	2	NE	-	1	UT	2	-
GU	-	-	NV	3	-	VT	-	-
HI	-	-	NH	1	-	VA	4	-
ID	1	-	NJ	2	1	WA	10	1
IL	50	1	NM	-	-	WV	-	-
IN	1	-	NY	48	6	WI	3	2
IA	14	-	NC	-	-	WY	-	-
KS	1	-	ND	-	-	TOTAL	308	31

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Incidents by Target

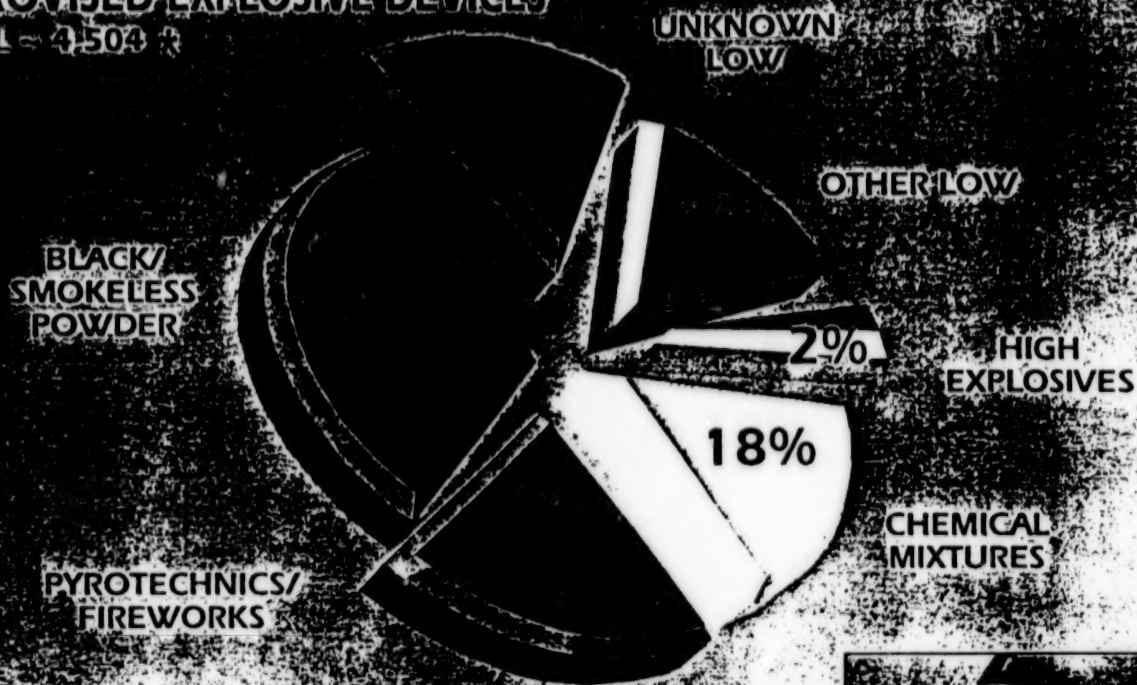
TARGET	EXPLOSIVE	INCENDIARY	PROPERTY DAMAGE
RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES			
Private Residences	222	281	\$1,480,790
Mailboxes/Other Private Property	1,032	124	150,455
COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES			
Financial Institutions	23	2	83,525
Commercial/Retail	142	49	2,644,785
Restaurants	24	6	81,150
Offices	20	11	17,300
Other Commercial Operations	62	22	105,785
VEHICLES			
Automobiles	189	125	522,900
Other Vehicles	19	4	166,100
PROPERTY OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY			
Postal Facility/Equipment	33	-	12,735
Military Facilities	2	-	200
Other Federal Government	6	1	14,250
UTILITIES			
Electric Facilities	2	-	2,000
Water/Sewer	6	-	1,000
MEDICAL FACILITIES			
Hospitals	2	-	2,000
Abortion Clinics	2	3	7,200
Other Medical Facilities	4	2	1,000
OTHER TARGETS			
State/Local Government Property	44	5	17,010
Law Enforcement/Judiciary	39	8	29,825
Bridge/Highway	29	2	152,450
Academic Facilities	94	18	22,521
Church/Synagogue/Temple	8	6	1,000,650
Vending Machines	25	1	16,130
Open Area	180	35	2,760
Other	149	19	841,750
Accidental Detonation/	80	1	35,700
Unknown Target			
	2,438	725	\$7,378,871

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Filter Material in Explosive Devices

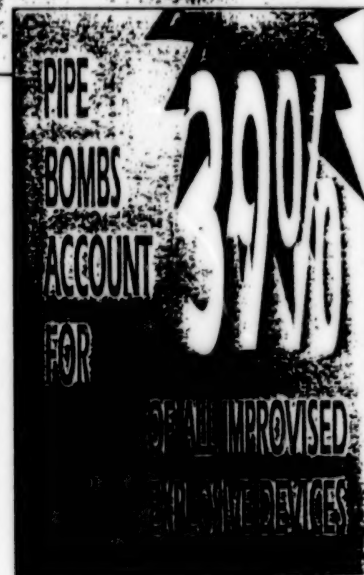
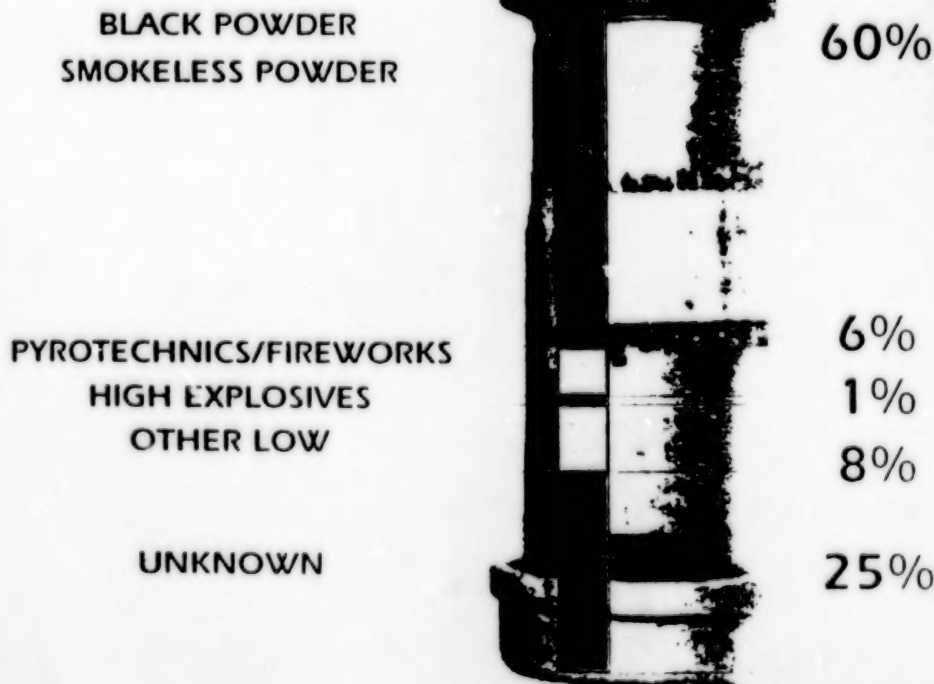
IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES

TOTAL ~ 4,504 *



PIPE BOMBS

TOTAL ~ 1,752



* Totals reflect improvised explosive devices used in bombings as well as devices that were recovered, e.g., in a search of a residence.

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Low Explosive Fillers

High Explosive Fillers

Container	BLACK/ SMOKELESS POWDER	MATCH HEADS	PYROTECHNICS/ FIREWORKS	IMPROVISED MIXTURE	CHEMICAL MIXTURES	OTHER	UNKNOWN/N	TOTAL	DYNAMITE	PRIMERS/ BOOSTERS	ANFO	BINARY/2-PART EXPLOSIVE	TNT	C-4	BLASTING CAP DETONATOR	OTHER	UNKNOWN/N	TOTAL
PIPE/METAL TUBE	801	17	56	20	5	54	358	1,311	-	-	3	-	-	1	2	3	-	9
PIPE/PLASTIC TUBE	257	3	42	16	2	21	85	426	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	2	-	6
CARDBOARD/PAPER TUBE	105	6	543	359	3	12	49	1,077	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
BOTTLE - GLASS	34	1	12	6	67	1	11	132	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	10
BOTTLE - PLASTIC	32	1	4	2	732	5	14	790	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
BOX	18	-	5	1	1	2	5	32	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3
BAG	2	-	-	-	-	3	1	6	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	3
CAN	25	1	7	2	3	-	7	45	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
MILITARY ORDNANCE	10	-	176	-	-	-	18	204	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	4	6	19
IMPROVISED MILITARY ORDNANCE	45	3	7	2	-	8	30	95	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	4
NONE	1	-	1	-	2	-	2	6	12	-	-	1	-	-	7	1	-	21
OTHER	66	3	23	5	-	5	28	130	1	2	2	-	-	1	-	6	2	14
UNKNOWN	10	2	6	1	2	1	127	149	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	7
TOTAL	1406	37	882	414	817	112	735	4,403*	22	2	7	3	10	2	12	28	15	101*

* Totals reflect improvised explosive devices used in bombings as well as devices that were recovered, e.g., in a search of a residence.

Explosive Fuzing

TYPE OF FUZING FOR IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES

Electrical	240
Non-electrical	3,921
Unknown	343

INITIATING METHODS FOR IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES

Delay	3,910
Booby-trapped	101
Radio Controlled/ Command-remote control	55
Action	26
Unknown	412

FUNCTIONING OF IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES

Impact	69
Clock/Mechanical delay	47
Burning delay	2,961
Chemical delay	817
Electrical/Electronic delay	132
Pressure activated	2
Pressure release activated	22
Pull/Push activated	34
Tension release activated	16
Other/Unknown	404

Numbers reflect improvised explosive devices used in bombings as well as devices that were recovered, e.g., in a search of a residence.

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Containers

FUZZING

for
Incendiary
Devices

DELAY	211
IMPACT	672
BOOBY TRAPPED	11
OTHER	4
UNKNOWN	17

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Incidents Involving Hoax Devices

HOAX DEVICES BY TARGET

TARGET	PRECEDED BY A THREAT	NO THREAT
RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES	17	77
COMMERCIAL/RETAIL	31	22
OFFICES	4	10
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS	52	20
ACADEMIC FACILITIES	14	32
GOVERNMENT PROPERTIES	7	24
VEHICLES	7	26
MEDICAL FACILITIES	4	7
LAW ENFORCEMENT	4	5
BRIDGES/HIGHWAYS	1	7
OTHER	33	70
TOTAL	174	300

TOTAL

474



HOAX DEVICES BY QUARTER

117	JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH
91	APRIL MAY JUNE
134	JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER
132	OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER

37% of incidents involving Hoax devices were preceded by a threatening note, letter or telephone call.

VEHICLES	7%
GOVERNMENT PROPERTIES	6%
COMMERCIAL/RETAIL	11%
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS	15%
OFFICES	3%
ACADEMIC FACILITIES	10%
OTHER	22%
RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES	20%
LAW ENFORCEMENT	2%
BRIDGES/HIGHWAYS	2%
MEDICAL FACILITIES	2%



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